10: Grevenbroek F-5 (ca. 1694)1933
FX13 Hottentot FX13
Cape Hottentot

000 Gravem ex humero et a tergo pharetram, et sicubi adversarius imminet telum, sarissam, pilum, jaculumve, longo latoque, et quandoque adunco hamatoque praeferrata spiculo, ossibusve asperata, dextrâ gestant; altero cubitorum sex septemve et pluribus eburneis armillis calbeisque digiti crassitudine singulis, seque invicem contingentibus, tam in sui tutelam, quam ornatus gratiâ munito, quibus ictus hostiles, dentes unguesque ferarum è re nata cominus excipiunt; sinistrâ vero retinent clavam seu fustem ex praeduro gravique ligno, buxeo simillimo, cum aliquot sagittis arcuque, et illo quo teguntur laxo, lanatoque scorteo, quo eminus hostium telis veluti clypeo scutati illudunt: abtegentibus se nonnullis praesultatoribus rorariisque, decumanorum boum ferociorumque taurorum corporibus, quos prolusionibus simulacris pugnae certaminibusque ludicris exercitos et in prima acie stare doctos, in adversum hostem capistratos agunt, quem hoc mobili et in omnem partem versatili vallo, veluti peribolo loricave tecti, fidenter thoracati petunt.

Hoc apparatu bellico instructi, pugnam laeti lacessunt, impavidique subsilientes, vibrando tela, jaculis certi, et sagittâ metuendi, vario corporis flexu et inclinatione hostilia exeunt arma; horrendo inconditoque clamore quo maximè hostis conterretur, tremendisque sibilis (voluntatis virtutisque indicibus) sublatis, dum fremitu aethera retonant, cum hoste paribus adsiste in armis, introrsum sinuata acie, formidabiles concurrunt, conserti cohaerentesque, et collato pede aperto Marte manum conferunt, et priusquam unum

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● 725 231 [18]) This statement finds an interesting confirmation in the account given by de Barros of the skirmish with the Hottentots of Table Bay in which de Almeida was killed (1510). The Hottentots, says de Barros, "having called their cattle, which are accustomed to this kind of warfare, began to whistle to them and make signs by which they guide them, so that forming into a squadron, and sheltered by the cattle, they attacked our men with wooden darts hardened by fire. Some fell wounded and were trodden down by the cattle, and as most of them were without shields, their only weapons being lances and swords, in this kind of warfare they could not do much damage to the negroes, who from among the cattle hurled their weapons against

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Hanging from the shoulder on to the back they carry a heavy quiver, and if an enemy should be near, they carry in the right hand a dart, lance, spear or javelin, with a long, broad, and sometimes curved and barbed iron spike at the top. Sometimes the weapon is fitted with sharpened bone. On one of their arms they wear six or seven or more ivory armlets or bracelets, each of the thickness of a finger and touching one another. This is as much for protection as for ornament, for they parry with them at close quarters as occasion requires the blows of their enemies, or the teeth and claws of wild beasts. In the left hand they hold a club or staff of hard and heavy wood, like box, together with a bow and some arrows, and that loose and woolly skin covering, with which, as if protected by a shield, they ward off the missiles of the enemy. They also employ a sort of advance-guard or skirmishers who shelter themselves behind the bodies of huge oxen or savage bulls. These creatures are trained in preliminary sham-fights and sportive encounters, and taught to keep their places in the front line. They are then led against the enemy on a halter, and the warriors sheltering behind this moveable rampart which can be wheeled in any direction hurl their weapons at the foe, as confident in their defence as if protected by a breastwork or parapet.[18])

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Equipped with this warlike gear they gladly challenge encounter with the foe, leaping forth fearlessly, brandishing their missiles, deadly with their spears, terrible with their arrows, and with various bendings and stoopings avoiding the enemies' arms. With horrible uncouth shouts to frighten the enemy, and terrifying hissings to prove their courage and zeal, while the welkin rings with the cry, "To grips with the foe," with their line of battle bent inwards they make their formidable onset in serried unbroken array, and getting to close quarters in open warfare they join battle, and before one missile can fall they follow it with

726 [727]

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our men, which had immediate effect." (Theal, *Records of S.E. Africa*, vi. 301). Schreyer (*op. cit.*, 23-24) describes a similar method of hunting lions and other beasts of prey.

725 231 [224]